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Mrs. Forbush
 Mrs. Southerland
 Mrs. Gessner
 Mrs. Jones

Chester
 Baptist
 Association

**Chester
Baptist
Association.**

Session 1897

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Chester R

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Octo

W. H. H. Fancher, Mod
J. R. W. Foster, Clerk a

EX

E. R. Seward.....
W. F. Col.....
Billie Weeks.....

Next meeting to be held
County—two miles east
miles north of Chester—
October, 1898, at 10 o'clock
Next introductory session
nate.

Delegate to the Southern
ternate, W. M. Weeks.

MINUTES OF THE

Chester Baptist Association,

HELD WITH THE

Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church,

Oktibbeha County, Miss.

October 2, 3, and 4, 1897.



OFFICERS.

W. H. H. Fancher, Moderator.	-	French Camp, Miss.
J. R. W. Foster, Clerk and Treasurer,	-	Chester, Miss.

EXECUTIVE BOARD.

E. R. Seward.....	Ackerman, Miss.
W. F. Col.....	Ackerman, Miss.
Billie Weeks	



NEXT MEETING.

Next meeting to be held with the Bluff Springs Church, Choctaw County—two miles east of Grady—4 miles south of Eupora and 13 miles north of Chester—on Saturday before the first Lord's day in October, 1898, at 10 o'clock A. M.

Next introductory sermon by J. S. Jenkins, C. H. Dobbs, Alternate.

Delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention; G. Jenkins, Alternate, W. M. Weeks.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Appoint Finance Committee.
2. Reading Letters.
3. Organization of Association
4. Call for Petitionary Letters.
5. Call for Correspondence.
6. Correspondence Returned.
7. Appoint Special Committies.
8. Report on Missions.
9. Report on Systematic Benevolence.
- 10 Report on Sunday Schools.
- 11 Report on Miss. College and Ministerial Education
- 12 Report on Woman's Work
- 13 Report on Publications.
- 14 Report on Temperance.
- 15 Report on Sustentation.
- 16 Report of Finance com.
- 17 Report of Executive com.
- 18 Appoint Standing com.
- 19 Miscellaneous Business.
- 20 Prayer.

HISTORICAL TABLE.

SERMON.	ORGANIZED.	PLACE.	MODERATOR	CLERK.
	1892	Chester.	N. Q. Adams.	J. R. W. Foster
J. H. D. Watson	1893	Fellowship	N. Q. Adams.	J. R. W. Foster
H. M. Long	1894	Bear Creek	N. Q. Adams	J. R. W. Foster
W. H. H. Fancher	1895	Bethlehem	N. Q. Adams	J. R. W. Foster
Chas. L. Lewis	1896	Providence	N. Q. Adams	J. R. W. Foster
David Burney	1897	Pleasant Ridge	W. H. H. Fancher	" "

MINISTERIAL REGISTER.

Adams, N. Q., Sturges	Fancher, W. H. H., French Camp
Biggers, M. A., Chester	Franklin, A. J., Pinto
Burney, David, Ackerman	Henson, G. W. Bywy
Black, Moses, Sturges	Jenkins, J. W., Bankston
Berry, A. P., Sturges	Middleton, B. L., Pinto
Carr, M. A., McCool	Peacock Joseph, Bankston
Dobbs, C. H. Bywy	Watson, Jasper, Double Springs
Jenkins G. S., Pinto	Oswalt M. L., Ackerman
Pearson J. T., Sturges	Watson J. W. D., Kenago
W. A. Edwards	Ackerman.

LICENTIATES.

J. E. Perry, Chester	W. A. Taylor, French Camp
B. E. Watson, Chester	Billie Dobbs, Chester
W. P. Griffin	Chester

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Missions—D. Burney, S. B. Dobbs, W. M. Weeks.
Systematic Benevolence—C. H. Dobbs, G. S. Jenkins, W. A. Edwards
Sunday School—J. J. Carter, B. L. Middleton, H. H. Sykes.
Miss. College and Ministerial Education—E. R. Seward, W. A.

Taylor, M. A. Biggers
 Woman's Work—A. P.
 Publication—W. F. Sl
 Temperance—B. L. Mid
 Sustentation—M. L. O
 Obituaries—N. Q. Ada

PLEASANT

The fifth annual sess
 with the Pleasant Rid
 at 10 o'clock A. M. Oct
 ed in singing a song.

tion of scripture, pray

N. Q. Adams called

The moderator appo

Berry on the Finan

Fancher were requeste

the different churches

enrolled whereas follow

1. Bethlehem—W. T.

2. Blys Creek—F. T. 1

3. Providence—B. E. 1

4. Ebenezer—R. W. B

5. Wake Forest. A. P.

6. Bear Creek—W. J. F

7. Fellowship—B. L. M

W. Franklin.

8. Sykes Chapel—C. C

Lewis.

9. Spring Hill—H. St

10. Bluff Springs—C.

(to come)

11. New Zion—G. W.

12. Pentress—Wm. E

13. Sturgis—M. B. St

14. Mt Moriah—H. R.

15. Pleasant Ridge—

16. New Hope—J. B.

come.

17. Mt. Pisgah—C. H

18. Ennis—R. M. Pat

19. Clear Springs—M

20. Ackerman—W. F

21. Double Springs—J

22. French Camp—W

W. A. Taylor, absent

Taylor, M. A. Biggers.

Woman's Work—A. P. Berry, J. H. D. Watson, J. H. McCartney.

Publication—W. F. Skinner, J. L. Power, B. C. McGarrity.

Temperance—B. L. Middleton, Noah Fondren, C. S. Bowles.

Supportation—M. L. Oswalt, W. T. Weeks, J. M. Murphy.

Obituaries—N. Q. Adams, G. D. Weatherall, B. E. Watson.

PROCEEDINGS.

PLEASANT RIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH, OCT. 2, 1897.

The fifth annual session of the Chester Baptist Association held with the Pleasant Ridge Church, Oktibbeha county, Mississippi, at 10 o'clock A. M. October the 2nd, 1897. The congregation engaged in singing a song. N. Q. Adams, the Moderator, read a portion of scripture, prayer by W. H. H. Fancher.

N. Q. Adams called the body to order.

The moderator appointed F. E. Millegan, Noah Fondren and J. F. Berry on the Finance Committee. S. B. Dobbs and W. H. H. Fancher were requested to act as reading clerks. The letters from the different churches were called for, and the names of delegates enrolled were as follows; See "A"

1. Bethlehem—W. T. Weeks, Joseph Blanton, Eli Snow
2. Blyscreek—F. T. Milligan, M. Brooks, G. S. Jenkins, J. W. Ward
3. Providence—B. E. Watson (other delegates failed to attend.)
4. Ebenezer—R. W. Box, J. W. Wills, J. W. Pearson.
5. Wake Forest. A. P. Berry, R. E. Hanna, J. H. Deas, D. M. Berry.
6. Bear Creek—W. J. Frazier, James Veal. (others failed to come.)
7. Fellowship—B. L. Milligan, Noah Fondren, G. H. McClain. J. W. Franklin.
8. Sykes Chapel—C. C. Sanders, Albert Hall, T. F. Sanders, R. B. Lewis.
9. Spring Hill—H. Steadman, J. J. Long, James Long, A. Bridges.
10. Bluff Springs—C. A. Lindsey [H. F. Tedder, Joe Lowley failed to come]
11. New Zion—G. W. Hodges, W. M. Weeks. (others failed to come,
12. Fentress—Wm. Edwards, J. H. Prewitt, John Montgomery.
13. Sturgis—M. B. Stroud, Oliver Quinn, G. W. Walker.
14. Mt Moriah—H. R. Kite, L. M. Harris. (others failed to come.)
15. Pleasant Ridge—N. Q. Adams, J. T. Buckner, R. E. Sykes.
16. New Hope—J. B. Williams, J. W. Yeatman. (others failed to come.
17. Mt. Pisgah—C. H. Dobbs, J. B. Atkins, D. L. Humphries.
18. Ennis—R. M. Patterson, W. M. Osburn.
19. Clear Springs—M. A. Biggers, M. Bright, C. L. Maxwell.
20. Ackerman—W. F. Cole, J. F. Berry, David Burney.
21. Double Springs—John Fulgham, P. A. Gregg, M. Vaughan.
22. French Camp—W. H. H. Fancher, C. W. Burks, M. T. Carter, W. A. Taylor, absent.

23. New Haven—S. H. M. Campbell, O. F. Chamblee, A. W. Chamblee, Jno. Simpson.
 24. Ruhama—J. R. W. Foster, S. B. Dobbs, B. C. McGarity, J. M. Murphy.
 25. Beulah—G. A. Eddleman, S. C. Steele, J. D. Black.
 26. McCurtain's Creek—C. C. Sheedy, James Trussel, (others absent).
 27. Mt. Olivet—J. W. Butler, C. H. Butler, G. T. Butler, R. M. Cotton.
 28. Poplar Creek, new church—Rev. W. F. Skinner, J. L. Vail.
- Center, Bethany, Wood Spring and Hogan's Chapel not represented. Pending the reading of the letters, the hour for the introductory sermon having arrived, business was suspended, a song was sung, prayer by brother David Burney. The sermon was preached by David Burney from the text, 29th verse and 6th chapter of John. Prayer by W. H. H. Fancher.

Intermission of 1½ hours.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Association called together by singing "Amazing grace how sweet the sound."

Clerks continued reading the letters from the churches. Permanent organization was affected by appointing brethren J. T. Sargent and A. T. Camp as tellers and after all the churches had voted they reported the election of W. H. H. Fancher as Moderator and J. R. W. Foster as clerk. After fitting remarks, and thanking the brethren for this express of confidence by the moderator the association was led in prayer by brother J. T. Sargent.

Petitionary letters were now called for when one was read from Poplar Creek Church with W. F. Skinner and J. L. Vail as delegates which upon motion was received and the Moderator extended the hand of fellowship to the delegates.

VISITING BRETHREN.

State Board: David Burney.
Louisville Association: J. T. Sargent.
Union Association: A. T. Camp.
Kosciusko Association: R. L. Veasy.

CORRESPONDENCE RETURNED:

Kosciusko: W. J. Frazier, David Burney, W. H. H. Fancher.
Louisville: A. P. Berry, J. D. Blanton.
Zion: David Burney, J. W. Franklin, M. A. Biggers.
Yazoo: David Burney, W. H. H. Fancher, O. F. Chamblee, W. F. Skinner, A. P. Berry.
Columbus: H. H. Sykes, David Burney, R. M. Cotton, F. N. Sanders, R. B. Lewis.

State Convention: N. S. B. Dobbs, W. H. H. Fancher, R. W. Foster, A. P. Berry, W. F. Skinner, B. E. Watson.

Upon motion a committee was appointed to wit: Pastor and Deacons, Weeks, and R. M. Patterson.

Upon motion, that those being absent, members from the following churches, and the following: New Haven, O. F. Chamblee, M. L. Oswald; New

Upon motion that we adjourn to Bluff Springs session, the vote was taken. Springs by a large majority. miles south of Eupora.

At this hour brother David Burney to procure a tomb for Farrar who labored for the Louisville Association and W. F. Skinner.

The devotional committee to preach at the church. L. Middleton to lecture at 11 o'clock Sunday, at the church.

Brother G. S. Jenkins, Kern Baptist Convention.

At this hour brother David Burney his trip to the last Session he was entertained at

Upon motion that we adjourn to the report on Sunday

Adjourned until Monday, J. T. Sargent.

Friday night brother David Burney, preached at the church, text: 23rd Psalm and

Saturday night at the church, text: Exodus, 14th chapter

At Bradley, brother David Burney, 10th chapter and the

Sunday morning 9

State Convention: N. Q. Adams, W. J. Frazier, David Burney, S. B. Dobbs, W. H. H. Fancher, B. C. McGarity, G. S. Jenkins, J. R. W. Foster, A. P. Berry, M. L. Oswalt, M. A. Biggers, W. F. Skinner, B. E. Watson.

Upon motion a committee was appointed on devotional exercises, to wit: Pastor and Deacons of this church, R. M. Cotton, W. T. Weeks, and R. M. Patterson.

Upon motion, that the delegates appointed from any church being absent, members from said churches will be received as delegates, and the following were enrolled: Ebenezer, J. W. Wills; New Haven, O. F. Shamblee; Mt. Pisgah, D. L. Humphreys; Bethlehem, M. L. Oswalt; McCurtain's Creek, J. C. Trussel.

Upon motion that we decide now the place of next meeting, Ebenezer and Bluff Springs churches having petitioned for the next session, the vote was taken and resulted in the choice of Bluff Springs by a large majority—which is 2 miles east of Grady, four miles south of Eupora and 13 miles north of Chester.

At this hour brother W. F. Skinner made a talk and asked formoney to procure a tombstone to be erected at the grave of W. M. Farrar who labored for a long time in the bounds of this and the Louisville Association, collection. \$5.70 was turned over to brother W. F. Skinner.

The devotional committee then reported as follows: A. T. Camp to preach at the church to-night. W. F. Skinner at Bradley. B. L. Middleton to lecture on Sunday schools tomorrow at 10 o'clock. At 11 o'clock Sunday, W. H. H. Fancher—at 2½ o'clock, J. T. Sargent at the church.

Brother G. S. Jenkins was elected to represent us in the Southern Baptist Convention and brother W. M. Weeks as alternate.

At this hour brother W. H. H. Fancher made a short talk about his trip to the last Southern Baptist Convention—what he saw, how he was entertained and how glad he was to be there.

Upon motion that we suspend the regular business and have the report on Sunday schools read to-morrow morning.

Adjourned until Monday morning at 9 o'clock. A. M. Prayer by J. T. Sargent.

Friday night brother W. H. H. Fancher, on his way to the association, preached at the residence of brother A. P. Berry from the text; 23rd Psalm and 5th verse.

Saturday night at church brother A. T. Camp preached from the text: Exodus, 14th chapter and 15th verse.

At Bradley, brother W. F. Skinner preached from 13th Luke, 10th chapter and the last clause of the 25th verse.

Sunday morning 9:30 o'clock. Congregation called together by

singing The moderator read 1st Psalm, prayer by brother A. P. Berry. The committee on Sunday Schools read their report which after being discussed by W. H. H. Fancher, the lecture on Sunday schools was delivered by brother B. L. Middleton after which the report was adopted. See "B"

Sunday at 11 oclock A. M sermon by W. H. H. Fancher, subject The Exalted Christ, text, Phillprians 2nd and 9.h verse. Prayer by N. Q. Adams. A collection was then taken for associational purposes by appointing B. C. McGarity, O. F. Chamblee, S. B. Dobbs, H. H. Sykes W. M. Weeks and R. E. Hanna as collectors who soon reported the collection of \$11.25 which was delivered to the finance committee.

The devotional committee then reported that as brother J. T. Sargent was called home by sickness in his family that brother B. L. Middleton preach at 2:30 oclock which he did to a large congregation from the text, 5th chapter of Matthew and 13th verse. Subject, Christian influence and the responsibility resting on christians.

Devotional committee reported that A. T. Camp preached at Bradley Sunday night and brother M. L. Oswalt at this church. Sunday night, brother Camp preached at Bradley from text: Proverbs 1st chapter and 17th verse. Brother Oswalt at church, text, St. John 21st chapter and 22nd verse.

MONDAY MORNING, OCT. 4TH 1897.

Singing called the congregation together. The moderator read a portion of the 23rd Psalm. Prayer by brother W. F. Cole.

The committee on missions read their report, read by H. H. Sykes which upon motion was received and being discussed by brethren H. H. Sykes and W. H. H. Fancher was adopted. see "C."

The report of the committee on Systematic benevolence read by A. P. Berry, which upon motion was received and being discussed by Bros. A. P. Berry, B. E. Watson, N. Q. Adams, W. H. H. Fancher, was adopted. See "D"

The Moderator appointed a committee on nominations, committee: J. F. Berry, L. C. Funderburg, G. W. Hodges.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Missions—D. Burney, S. B. Dobbs, W. M. Weeks.

Systematic Benevolence—C. H. Dobbs, G. S. Jenkins, W. A. Edwards.

Sunday Schools—J. J. Carter, B. L. Middleton, H. H. Sykes.

Miss. College and Ministerial Education—E. R. Seward, W. A. Taylor, M. A. Biggers.

Woman's Work—A. P. Berry, J. H. D. Watson, J. H. McCarty.

Publications—W. F. Skinner, J. L. Power, B. C. McGarity.

Temperance—B. L. Middleton, Noah Fondren, C. S. Bowles.

Sustentation—M. L. Oswalt, W. T. Weeks, J. M. Murphy.

Obituaries—N. Q. Adams.

Upon motion hereafter minutes who is absent.

The committee on Missions by D. Burney—which upon discussion by brethren Fancher, was adopted.

At the suggestion of prayer by brother N. Q. Adams, love, harmony good order this session.

As the committee on Finance by D. Burney, W. F. Skinner get up said report at once.

The report of the committee on Sykes, which being discussed by H. H. Sykes, B. E. Watson was adopted. See "F."

The report of committee on Finance by W. F. Skinner upon motion of N. Q. Adams and W. F. Skinner was adopted.

The report of committee on Finance which upon motion of brother and A. P. Berry.

announced and he was then upon motion continued the session.

The report of committee on Finance by B. E. Watson, S. B. Dobbs, which was received and adopted. See "I."

Upon motion of B. E. Watson minutes.

The report of Executive Committee received and adopted.

The report of Finance Committee received and adopted. See "M."

The Treasurer made report and the committee on Finance adopted. See "M."

Resolutions read by brother N. Q. Adams.

Report on Obituaries by brother N. Q. Adams.

Upon motion of N. Q. Adams brother H. H. Fancher to Southern.

Upon motion that the report be adopted.

Upon motion that the report be adopted.

Obituaries—N. Q. Adams, G. D. Weatherall, B. E. Watson.

Upon motion hereafter no delegates' name shall be reported in the minutes who is absent at roll call on Monday.

The committee on Mississippi College read their report—read by D. Burney—which upon motion was received and after some discussion by brethren David Burney, W. J. Frazier, W. H. H. Fancher, was adopted. See "E"

At the suggestion of the Moderator a song be sung and have prayer by brother N. Q. Adams, returning thanks for the brotherly love, harmony good order, and peace that has prevailed through this session.

As the committee on Woman's Work were absent, brethren David Burney, W. F. Skinner and M. A. Biggers were appointed to get up said report at once.

The report of the committee on Publications was read by H. H. Sykes, which being discussed by A. T. Camp, W. A. Edwards, H. H. Sykes, B. E. Watson, W. F. Skinner and others, was adopted. See "F."

The report of committee appointed on Woman's Work was read by W. F. Skinner upon motion received and after remarks by N. Q. Adams and W. F. Skinner was adopted. See "G."

The report of committee on Temperance was read by David Burney which upon motion was received. Spoken to by W. F. Skinner and A. P. Berry. During brother Berry's speech dinner was announced and he was asked to suspend until after dinner. Afternoon continued the discussion and it was adopted. See "H."

The report of committee on Sustentation was read by C. H. Dobbs, which was received and adopted after remarks by C. H. Dobbs. See "I."

Upon motion of B. E. Watson that speeches be limited to five minutes.

The report of Executive committee read by H. H. Sykes was received and adopted. See "J."

The report of Finance committee read by T. F. Milligan received and adopted. See "K."

The Treasurer made his report which was adopted. See "L."

The committee on Nominations read their report which was adopted. See "M."

Resolutions read by A. P. Berry adopted by unanimous vote. See "N."

Report on Obituaries read by M. L. Oswalt adopted. See "O."

Upon motion of N. Q. Adams that the expenses of Bro. W. H. H. Fancher to Southern Baptist Convention be paid by Treasurer.

Upon motion that the Clerk be made Treasurer—carried.

Upon motion that the Clerk be paid \$15.

Upon motion that the Clerk be requested to have 1000 minutes

published as soon as possible.

Upon motion that Bro. W. A. Edwards be retained as Colporteur of this Association. Adjourned to meet with the Bluff Springs Church on Saturday at 10 o'clock before the first Sunday in October 1898, 2 miles east of Grady, 4 miles south of Eupora and 13 miles north of Chester.

A hymn was sung, the parting nand extnded and we were led in prayer by brother N. Q. Adams.

J. R. W. Foster, Clerk.

W. H. H. Fancher, Moderator.

B—SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT.

To run a Sunday school successfully is one of the unsolved problems of our church life. That the live, successful Sunday school is the exception rather than the rule in our churches is easily to be observed—this ought not so to be. The necessity for a good Sunday school is apparent wherever the necessity for christian culture is recognized. We regret to see that the number of schools reported this year is one less than last year—but rejoice to see a small increase in the number of scholars. We, your committee, submit the following statistical report:

	1895.	1896.	1897.
No. Sunday Schools reported.	11	12	11
Officers and Teachers	00	30	45
Scholars.	372	400	415
No. added to churches from S. S.	00	10	15
Am't paid different objects.	00	\$49.55	\$72.02

Literature used—Southern and American Baptist Literature.

Your committee would emphasize the importance of organizing and maintaining a Sunday School in every church

W. H. H. Fancher, Chairman.

C—MISSIONS.

Your committee on missions would respectfully ask to submit this our annual report. Under the management of our convention board, we find that 79 missionaries have been employed—number of stations 137—sermons preached 3850—church prayer meetings attended 1250—families visited for religious purposes 5,000—number persons baptized 547—by letter 429—number of churches organized 13—Sunday schools organized 25—officers, teachers and scholars in same 500—number of houses of worship commenced 11—number houses of worship finished 10—number houses of worship repaired 5. Money collected for personal services \$2,000. money collected for State missions \$1,100, money collected for other purposes \$2,100.

Some of these missionaries have been employed for all, others for a part of the time ranging from 1 to 6 months. The board em-

ployed 4 colporteurs for 6
tical report of Colporteur
6350; bibles sold 202; bib
testaments given away 2
pages tracts distributed
made 59, prayer meeting
Sunday Schools organiza
scribers for Record 4; w
at the state convention th
ding value of boxes. The
est to our church at Jac
paid. We were asked thi
foreign missions, reache
year as follows; missions
\$24.08; other purposes \$5

D—SYSTEM.

We your committee on
ing report. The foundati
Voluntary contribution
a characteristic of the C
into the meaning of ben
others. True Christian
a heart that has a knowl
the love in the heart tha
tion of aid and relief to

The world witnessed t
himself on the cross for
mission to carry the
the means to the end.
the first day of the wee
is the New Testament

The Spirit of this in
Giving regularly and
Giving is a habit as we
vated. We therefore u
giving. 2nd We recom
benevolence be changed
of Christ. Respectfull

This report was als
tions be taken by the c

E—MISSIONS.

On the third day of Ju

employed 4 colporteurs for 6 months each at a salary of \$700. Statistical report of Colporteurs Days of service 570; miles traveled 6350; bibles sold 202; bibles given away 36; testaments sold 344; testaments given away 27; books sold 527; books given away 15; pages tracts distributed 5280; sermons preached 395; addresses made 59; prayer meetings held 76; families destitute of bibles 63; Sunday Schools organized 18; Sunday Schools addressed 29; subscribers for Record 4; we find from the report of home missions at the state convention that Miss. gave in cash \$3191.36, not including value of boxes. The board has agreed to pay \$1000 and interest to our church at Jackson for 5 years. \$2000 of which has been paid. We were asked this year to give \$4000. Miss. contributions to foreign missions reached \$8528.22. This association paid for last year as follows; missions \$32.35, home \$8.25; foreign \$24.95. state \$24.08; other purposes \$57.15; Total \$146.78. Respectfully submitted
H. H. Sykes.

D—SYSTEMATIC BENEVOLENCE

We your committee on systematic benevolence submit the following report. The foundation of true benevolence is a willing heart. Voluntary contributions for the cause of Christ and the church is a characteristic of the Christian dispensation. When we examine into the meaning of benevolence we find that it is wishing well to others. True Christian benevolence then can only spring from a heart that has a knowledge of Christ. Knowing Christ enkindles the love in the heart that takes in all mankind and prompts to action of aid and relief to those in darkness and distress.

The world witnessed the climax of benevolence when Christ gave himself on the cross for the redemption of mankind! The commission to carry the gospel to every creature contemplates the means to the end. The Apostolic injunction to lay by on the first day of the week according as the Lord has prospered us is the New Testament way of giving.

The Spirit of this injunction we cannot improve upon.

Giving regularly and at stated times is the idea.

Giving is a habit as well as a grace and duty which can be cultivated. We therefore urge 1st that our pastors urge the cause of giving. 2nd We recommend that this annual report of systematic benevolence be changed to report on systematic giving for the cause of Christ. Respectfully Submitted A. P. Berry, M. A. Biggers

This report was also amended by motion that quarterly collections be taken by the churches and they report to the association.

E—MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE REPORT

On the third day of June the college closed another very prosperous

session of 1896—97. During the year 228 students matriculated, eight of whom were post graduates and candidates for the degree of Master of Arts. There were 16 graduates and 35 ministerial students. The character of the work done by the students has been as good, if not better than usual. The Faculty express themselves as most hopeful of their work, every college department is being strengthened and a regularly prescribed course has been made for the degree of master of arts. Not as much done in the way of material improvements as was desired and expected. Something like \$1500.00 has been put on improvements, also about \$200 expended in seating the middle building. It was our good fortune to report to you last year for the first time in many years that the salaries of the professors had all been paid in full and there was a surplus in the treasury of \$275.53. And we hoped we would never be compelled again to report a deficit, but alas the hard times compels us to say that we are behind on the salaries of the professors about \$700. Dr. J. W. Provine was elected president, M. Latimore was elected assistant in the department of science, Walter Taylor elected assistant in the preparatory department.

Let our college be manned by God fearing, self sacrificing professors and from its walls will go forth the same character of men to bless this world.

Ministerial education this year has been one of success, of 35 ministerial students who have attended the college this session 25 have been aided more or less by the Board, of those aided two graduated in a full B. A. course. All of them came well recommended by their pastors and churches and the college faculty testify to their having made good progress in their studies. Financial statement:

The board has received this year in contributions \$1043.00, rents \$314.00, boxes of provisions \$320.00, total \$1667.00 as against last year \$1680.00.

By these contributions, and by the help afforded by the new cottage they have been able to close the year free of debt and with a balance of \$150.00 in the treasury. Respectfully Submitted.

David Burney. B. C. McGarity

F—REPORT on PUBLICATIONS:

We your committee on publications beg leave to submit to you this, our annual report.

First of all we commend to you the careful study of the Bible, it is God's revealed word concerning man, and the only true guide to eternal life. As the "press" is the greatest means known to impart knowledge, and for the exchange of thought, we would recommend to the Baptist of this association the Baptist Record, published at Meridian and the Baptist Layman published at Winona

as the State organs of them being placed in the Orphans Gem published approve of the position Layman on the Whites these papers from able culled from History these men have been made acquainted with Our doctrines have been has been gathered from and every reader has en the remote parts of tere of the home, the cation ecclesiastical la ture, current events given a place in their themselves with a ma Baptist cause in all t and better. As Sund of any single agency the character of our g mend to you the Sout Schools as they are our loyal to the truth and patronage. The Fore in the way of price an indispensable and sho many other papers a report, but we will co any church member is to take the paper of

Every one who div reason takes a dollar it impossible for the per and as cheap a or

We, your committee report. While our w which deserves our h ciety in our Associat great zeal for the Ma all the assistance and

as the State organs of our denomination and urge the necessity of them being placed in every home in Mississippi, we also recommend the Orphans Gem published at Jackson Miss. However we do not approve of the position taken by the Record on Martinism nor the Layman on the Whitsit matter. Contributions are being made to these papers from able writers all over the state. Our editors have culled from History the heroism of our forefathers. The lives of these men have been set forth with pen, and our readers have been made acquainted with more of our early history than ever before. Our doctrines have been set forth anew by skillful writers. News has been gathered from every nook and corner of the denomination and every reader has been able to learn what was transpiring in even the remote parts of the country, the papers have cared for interest of the home, the Sunday School, the cause of missions, education ecclesiastical law besides other important subjects. Literature, current events, both religious and secular have all been given a place in their columns. In short, the papers have devoted themselves with a marked consecration to the upbuilding of the Baptist cause in all the way that our people can be made stronger and better. As Sunday School literature is the greatest power of any single agency for shaping the thought and moulding the character of our great denominational life, we therefore recommend to you the Southern Baptist Convention Series in our Sunday Schools as they are ours and equal if not superior to all others, they are loyal to the truth and in every way worthy our confidence and patronage. The Foreign Mission Journal is in reach of every one in the way of price and is very useful and instructive and almost indispensable and should be in the home of every Baptist. There are many other papers and Journals that could be mentioned in this report, but we will conclude by saying, whatever other periodicals any church member chooses to take, we submit that his first duty is to take the paper of his own church.

Every one who diverts one dollar from it for whatever cause or reason takes a dollar from the treasury and to that extent renders it impossible for the publishers to furnish the church as good a paper and as cheap a one as it otherwise could,

H. H. Sykes.

G—WOMAN'S WORK.

We, your committee on Woman's Work, submit the following report. While our women are doing a great work for the Master which deserves our highest commendation, yet they have no society in our Association—but their influence for purity and their great zeal for the Master's cause should stimulate us to give them all the assistance and encouragement we can.

We would recommend that steps be taken to organize societies in every church where it is practicable in the bounds of the Association. We find that for the different enterprises there has been raised by the ladies of the state \$6,988.40. Respectfully submitted,

David Burney.
W. F. Skinner.
M. A. Biggers.

H—TEMPERANCE.

We, your committee, would report as follows: We realize that the Temperance cause is of vast importance, not only to the up-building and spiritual development of the churches, but to the elevating of humanity and the establishment of good citizenship. We are aware of the fact that the rapid progress made in the Temperance cause in the last few years, is largely due to the united efforts of God's people on this line in the churches.

We are proud that there is not an open saloon within the bounds of this association, and there is but few counties in the State where intoxicants can be sold legally. The Bible pronounces a severe retribution on drunkenness as it does on murderers and enjoins upon the christians to be temperate in all things.

We find the prohibition cause so closely allied to the cause of christianity, we think it the duty of every one to refrain from the use of intoxicants as a beverage and to foster and promote the cause of prohibition in every way possible that he may save others from the curse of strong drink. Respectfully Submitted.

S. B. Dobbs, } Committee
W. M. Weeks, }

I—REPORT on SUSTENTATION.

We your committee on sustentation beg leave to report as follows: First that the churches of this association adopt the rules given by the inspired apostle in first Timothy 5th chapter, and secondly when these rules have been faithfully complied with find the need cannot be supplied by the relatives and the church, then let the church make an appeal to the association with a stipulated amount of actual need.

We find nothing done along this line during the past year. Respectfully Submitted. C. H. Dobbs, Chairman

J—EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT.

The Executive Board met at Acherman between the 1st and 10th of March 1897, and instructed brother J.R.W. Foster clerk, to pay Sister Jane Peacock, Malinda Southerland, S. J. Fant and M. J. Pasham each \$4.40 being the amount collected at the last association for sustentation, they being wives of deceased ministers in

our association. No other the year. Respectfully Submitted.

K—REPORT

We have received the following purposes, to For minutes \$39.30; Home associational purposes for for that purpose \$11.25, to \$95.85 to be turned over to

We have examined the correct.

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association. No other business came before the Board during
the year. Respectfully Submitted.
H. H. Sykes.
W. T. Weeks.

K—REPORT of FINANCE COMMITTEE.

We have received the following amounts from the churches for
the following purposes, to wit:
For minutes \$39.30; Home missions \$7.55 Foreign missions \$22.05,
associational purposes from churches \$11.60, collection on Sunday
for that purpose \$11.25, total \$22.85, State missions \$4.10, total
\$95.85 to be turned over to treasurer.

We have examined treasurer's report and find the same to be
correct.
T. F. Milligan.
Noah Fondren.
J. F. Berry.

L—TREASURER'S REPORT.

(J. R. W. Foster in account with the Chester Association.)
1896.
Oct 5. Rec'd from Finance com., I. Neely and others..... \$107.80
Oct 5. Collected for widows of deceased preachers..... 17.35
Afterwards from brother Kite..... 25
Total 125.40

CREDITS.

Oct. 1896.	Manuscript sent to Hurt and return.....	\$ 50
Oct 19 '96	Money sent to A. V. Rowe.....	45.25
	Registry Fee on same.....	10
	Expressage sending manuscript to Johnson.....	25
	Express on Minutes and hauling same.....	55
	Paid H. M. Johnson for Minutes.....	25.00
	Expressage and postage.....	15
	Postage on Minutes sent off.....	2 10
	Paid for Seminary promised by brother Wilson.....	5.00
	Registering same.....	10
	P'd Bro. Fancher for monument for Bro. Farrar.....	2.05
	Paid Sisters Peacock, Pasham, Fant and South- erland by order Ex. com. \$4.40 each.....	17.60
	Pencils and paper.....	30
	Amount paid Clerk.....	15.00
		\$113.95
	To balance in Treasurer's hands.....	11.45
		\$125.40

Oct. 1897.	To balance in Treasurer's hands last year.....	\$11.45
" "	To am't, from F. com. T. F. Milligan and others.....	95.85
		\$107.30

CREDITS.

Oct 1897	Pd W. H. Fancher by order of Association.....	\$12.00
" "	P'd Clerk.....	15.00

We your committee on nominations report as follows, viz: Bro. G. S. Jenkins to preach next introductory sermon. Brother C. H. Dobbs, alternate. Executive committee: E. R. Seward, W. F. Cole and Billie Weeks.
J. F. Berry,

J. F. Berry,
G. C. Fonderk,
G. W. Hodges.

Whereas the brothers and sisters of Pleasant Ridge church and their friends and neighbors have so kindly, generously and sumptuously entertained the delegates and visitors of the Chester Association therefore resolved, That the thanks of this Association be tendered to the members of Pleasant Ridge Church and the citizens of the community for their kindness and hospitality.

Your committee has to report the death of brother W. S. Middleton, who was a true Baptist and a faithful minister of the gospel. An excellent feature of his work lay in the soundness of his counsel and the earnestness of his judgement in discipline. In his preparation for the ministry he spent two sessions in the Mississippi College. His knowledge of the Scriptures was good, excelled by few. In short he was a true, consecrated servant of Christ. His teachings, both by precept and example, are worthy of imitation by all. The church feels the loss of this good man and we express our sympathy for the bereaved family.

The Colporteur, W. A. Edwards, did not make a report, but was retained as such for this Association.

Churches	State missions	Foreign missions	Home missions	Minute Fund
Ackerman.....	4.10			1.50
Bethlehem.....				1.50
Byland's C.reek.....		3.00		1.60
Breith.....				1.50
Beard C.reek.....				2.00
Buff Springs.....		55.1.00		1.50
Clear Springs.....				1.50
Douglas Springs.....				2.00
Henns.....	1.10			.50
Lindzezel.....	.50			1.50
Renoirship.....	.50	2.00		1.50
Ecclesiastes.....	1.05			.80
French Camp.....				2.00
McArthurville C.F.K.....		1.75		1.50
Mt. Oliver.....	1.00			75.1.00
Mt. Moriah.....			1.25	1.50
Mt. A. Legan.....	1.70			1.50
New Zion.....				2.00
N.W. Haven.....		3.00		1.50
New Hope.....		3.85		1.10
Pittman Ridge.....	2.00			1.25
Powledge.....				1.50
Rodman.....				1.50
Spring Hill.....				1.00
Sturgis.....				1.00
Nike's Chapel.....	1.05			.75
Wake Forest.....	.20			1.05
Woplar Creek.....				2.00
Total.....	\$22.85	\$229.54	\$55.29	\$39.16

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ows, viz: Bro.
Brother C. H.
Seward, W. F.
F. Berry,
C. Fonderk,
W. Hodges.
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Churches	Minute	Home	Foreign	State	Associational
Ackerman	1.50			4.10	
Bethlehem	1.50				
Blythe's Creek	1.50				
Beulah	1.50				
Bear Creek	1.50				
Bluff Springs	1.50				
*Bethany	1.50				
Clear Springs	1.50				
*Carter	1.50				
Double Springs	1.50				
Ennis	1.50				
Ebenezer	1.50				
Fellowship	1.50				
Fentress	1.50				
French Camp	1.50				
*Hogan Chapel	1.50				
McCurrains Creek	1.50				
Mt. Olivet	1.50				
Mt. Moriah	1.50				
Mt. Pisgah	1.50				
New Zion	1.50				
New Haven	1.50				
New Hope	1.50				
Pleasant Ridge	1.50				
Providence	1.50				
Ruhama	1.50				
Spring Hill	1.50				
Sturges	1.50				
Sike's Chapel	1.50				
*Wood Springs	1.50				
Wake Forest	1.50				
Poplar Creek	1.50				

STATISTICAL TABLE

Churches	Added by					Lost by	Males	Females	Total	Pastors and Postoffices	Clerks and Postoffices	When organized	Days of preaching	Seating capacity
	Baptism	Letter	Restor'n	Expulsion	Death									
Ackerman	4	1		7	1		29	57	86	W. A. Stranburg, Eupora	Money Adams, Ackerman	3rd		300
Bethlehem				5	3	2	56	80	136	J. Sargent, Sturges	W. T. Weeks, Ackerman	3rd	1835	300
Blythe's Creek	27	12		7	1		38	81	119	N. Q. Adams, Sturges	A. R. Hester, Pinto	2nd	1871	300
Beulah		4					36	37	73	J. T. Sargent, Sturges	J. H. Eddleman, Weir	1st	1861	
Bear Creek	4	5	1	16	1	5	86	109	195	W. H. H. Fancher, French C'mp	W. H. Black, Weir	3rd		300
Bluff Springs	1	1		4			50	48	98	J. H. D. Watson, Kenago	C. A. Lindsey, Eupora	1st		
*Bethany							41	61	102	N. Q. Adams, Sturges	W. Steadman, Chester			
Clear Springs	3		1	2			17	12	49	G. W. Henson, Bywy	J. W. Ramage, Chester	4th	1862	250
*Carter							9	13	22		A. O. Douglass, Maben	2nd		
Double Springs	3	4	3	5	1		46	76	122	Jasper Watson, Double Springs	J. O. Templeton, Double Spr'g	3rd	1851	300
Ennis	3		1				10	10	20	E. W. Breland,	Jesse Keeton Cagle	4th		
Ebenezer	15		1	4	1	1	21	33	54	M. A. Biggers, Chester	J. O. McGary, Stewart	2nd	1874	
Fellowship	24	3	3	9	1		60	82	142	C. A. Hicks, Belfontain	J. W. Woodward, Pinto	1st		
Fentress	2	5		1	1		17	21	38	J. T. Pearson, Longview	Carrie Prewitt, Fentress	3rd		
French Camp	4	5					41	32	73	W. H. H. Fancher, French C'mp	W. A. Taylor, French Camp	2 & 4		
*Hogan Chapel	8						19	21	40	Joseph Peacock, Bankston		1st		
McCurrains Creek		4		6			72	79	151	J. H. D. Watson, Kenago	C. C. Buse, Bankston	4th		
Mt. Olivet	5		5	1	1	1	18	27	45	G. S. Jenkins, Dido	G. T. Butler, Chapel	3rd		
Mt. Moriah	7	2	1				34	28	62	A. P. Berry, Sturges	H. R. Kite, Kenago	4th		
Mt. Pisgah	14	2		3	3		48	61	109	C. A. Hicks, Belfontain	J. B. Atkins, Bywy	4th		
New Zion	5	1		3	3		56	75	129	W. H. H. Fancher, French C'mp	R. F. Keen, Burney	1st		
New Haven	7	5		2	1	1	49	67	116	J. H. D. Watson, Kenago	A. W. Chamblee, Kenago	3rd		
New Hope	8	1			1		27	33	60	A. P. Berry, Sturges	J. W. Yeatman, Longveiw	4th		
Pleasant Ridge	1	2		1	1		21	36	57	N. Q. Adams, Sturges	J. A. Brown, Bradly	4th		
Providence	10	7	3	1	1		47	39	86	J. D. Watson, Kenago	J. H. McCartey, Chester	2nd	1885	300
Ruhama	2						27	23	50	W. H. Fancher F. Camp	J. R. W. Foster, Chester	1st	1881	300
Spring Hill	2	2		5			26	33	59	G. S. Jenkins, Dido	J. O. Ray, Dido	4th		
Sturges				3	1	1	20	15	35	"	B. F. Tomlinson, Sturges	1st		
Sike's Chapel	1	1	2				19	25	44	A. R. Breland, Cumberland	T. F. Sanders, Bradley	2nd		
*Wood Springs							33	33	66					
Wake Forest	8	10		6	1		36	47	83	A. P. Berry, Sturges	G. B. Green, Sturges	2nd		
Poplar Creek	1	7		6	4	1			128	W. H. H. Fancher, F. Camp	L. J. Booth, Kilmichel	2nd		
	165	79	21	94	20	22	1109	1412	2521					

*Not represented.

Sent in to Association

Sent in to Association \$95.85.

Sent off during year \$121.10.

Other purposes, \$108.10

Sunday School Literature \$28.94

S. S. paid to	
Orphan's home	
Added to	
church from S. S	
Total amount	
paid during	
10 70	
07 30	
20 00	
04 35	
30 75	
8 75	
1 50	
9 00	
50	
3 00	
8 30	14
1 80	
7 09	14 40
3 25	
3 75	
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8 30	
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8 95	
25	
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